

REMARKS

Independent claim 8 and claims 3, 5, 6, 7 and 9 depended from claim 8 as well as independent claims 10 and 11 remain in this application for examination.

None of Applicant's claims are now rejected over the prior art. The claims are only objected to and rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Applicant has addressed each and every claim objection as well as the §112 claim rejection by amending the amendments to the claims remaining for examination. Specifically, Applicant has corrected the spelling of "binding" in claim 7 and has removed the antecedent basis issue by canceling claim 12. With respect to the claim rejections, the terms "naps", "latching elements" and the term "braid" have now been deleted from the claims and the specification. Accordingly, there are no issues in this application remaining for consideration in that Applicant has complied with every objection and rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, by deleting all subject matter in contention.

Clearly, no new issues are presented in this reply. Issues addressed by Applicant are of a formal nature not requiring additional effort or searching by the Examiner in that the reply involves only cancellation of terms objected to by the Examiner.

In view of the above remarks, favorable reconsideration is courteously requested. If there are any remaining issues, which could be expedited by a telephone conference, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone counsel at the number indicated below.

§Appl. No. 10/521,163
Amdt. dated November 16, 2007
Reply to Office Action of, August 27, 2007

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

/John R. Moses/

John R. Moses, Reg. No. 24,983
Attorney for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO
& BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400
2200 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone: (703) 243-6333
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410
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